

3. A method for the evacuation of an occlusive substance from the wall of a blood vessel, comprising

positioning a distal end of a guidewire proximal to at least a portion of the occlusive substance [within] on the wall of said blood vessel;

introducing an aspiration catheter over said guidewire; [and]

prior to evacuating the occlusive substance from the wall of the blood vessel, aspirating through the aspiration catheter while crossing the site of the occlusive substance with both the distal end of the guidewire and a distal end of the aspiration catheter [while aspirating.]; and

evacuating the occlusive substance.

7. The method of Claim 3, wherein said occlusion includes an [is a thrombus or] embolus.

18. The method of Claim 14, wherein said occlusion includes an [is a thrombus or] embolus.

25. The method of Claim 21, further comprising introducing [asaid] said aspiration catheter after performing therapy to remove debris generated during said therapy.

27. The method of Claim 21, wherein said occlusion includes an [is a thrombus or] embolus.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: June 23, 2000

By:

Daniel E. Johnson  
Daniel E. Johnson  
Registration No. 37,033  
Agent of Record  
620 Newport Center Drive  
Sixteenth Floor  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
(949) 760-0404